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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/617,061	07/11/2003	James Norman Cawse	RD-26357	4870
7590	08/10/2005		EXAMINER	
PHILLIP D. FREEDMAN P. O. BOX 19076 ALEXANDRIA, VA 22320			TRAN, MY CHAU T	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			1639	
DATE MAILED: 08/10/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary <i>Restriction Only</i>	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/617,061	CAWSE, JAMES NORMAN	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	MY-CHAU T. TRAN	1639	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 7/11/03.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-15 and 26-45 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) _____ is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) 1-15 and 26-45 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Application and Claims Status

1. Applicant's preliminary amendment filed 07/11/2003 is acknowledged and entered.

Claims 16-25 have been cancelled. Claims 26-45 have been added.

2. Claims 1-15, and 26-45 are pending. *Note: Applicant has indicated in the preliminary amendment that claim 16 is cancel and also indicate in the remarks section of the preliminary amendment that claim 16 is pending. Clarification is needed regarding the status of claim 16. However, claim 16 is currently entered as cancel.*

Election/Restrictions

3. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1-15, and 36-45, drawn to a high throughput screening method with the step of reacting each of said plurality of combinations as each combinations passes through the reaction zone, classified in class 435, subclass DIG 50.
- II. Claims 26-35, drawn to a high throughput screening method with the step of sequentially reacting each member of a set of reactants under a selected set of catalyst or reaction conditions according to a reaction parameter, classified in class 435, subclass DIG 51.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

4. Inventions of Group I and Group II are two different methods, which differ in their method steps. The different method steps have different functions and modes of operation.

Group I requires the method step of reacting each of said plurality of combinations as each combinations passes through the reaction zone. Group II requires the method step of sequentially reacting each member of a set of reactants under a selected set of catalyst or reaction conditions according to a reaction parameter. Thus these two different inventions as claimed have different method steps that have different functions and modes of operation (MPEP § 806.04, MPEP § 808.01).

5. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the searches required are not co-extensive thus requiring a burdensome search, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper. Additionally, different patentability considerations are involved for each group. For example, a patentability determination for Group II would involve a determination of the patentability of the high throughput screening method with the step of sequentially reacting each member of a set of reactants under a selected set of catalyst or reaction conditions according to a reaction parameter while a patentability determination for Group I would involve a consideration of the patentability of the high throughput screening method with the step of reacting each of said plurality of combinations as each combinations passes through the reaction zone. These considerations are very different in nature.

Even though some of the groups are classified in the same class and/or subclass, this has no effect on the non-patent literature search. Different groups would require completely different searches in non-patent databases, and there is no exception that the searches would be co-extensive.

6. This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention.

If applicants elect the invention of Group I, applicants are required to elect ***one single species of each reactant*** that would result in a single specific species of reactants combination.

The species are distinct, each from the other, because each species have different chemical structure and/or physiochemical properties and would be capable of separate manufacture and/or use; and would necessitate different and separately burdensome manual and computer bibliographic and structure searches in both patent and non-patent areas.

7. *If applicants elect the invention of Group II,* applicants are required to elect ***one single species from each*** of the following a)-b):

- a) A ***single specific*** species of set of reactant.
- b) A ***single specific*** species of catalyst.

The species are distinct, each from the other, because each species have different chemical structure and/or physiochemical properties and would be capable of separate manufacture and/or use; and would necessitate different and separately burdensome manual and computer bibliographic and structure searches in both patent and non-patent areas.

8. Applicant is advised that a reply to this requirement must include an identification of the species that is elected consonant with this requirement, and ***a listing of all claims readable thereon, including any claims subsequently added.*** An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

9. Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which are written in dependent form or otherwise include all the limitations of an allowed generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141. If claims are added after the election, applicant must indicate which are readable upon the elected species. MPEP § 809.02(a).

10. Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the inventions unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other invention.

11. Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

12. Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a request under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Art Unit: 1639

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MY-CHAU T TRAN whose telephone number is 571-272-0810. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.: 8:00-2:30; Tues.-Thurs.: 7:30-5:00; Fri.: 8:00-3:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, ANDREW WANG can be reached on 571-272-0811. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

mct
August 6, 2005



ANDREW WANG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 1600